

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 09040

EXCON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ESTC, UR

SUBJECT: PRE-LICENSE CHECK

REF: (A) STATE 64460(NOTAL), (B) STATE 102827(NOTAL)

1. IN ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH BONA FIDES OF INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL TOXICOLOGY, COMOFF CHECKED LOCAL DIRECTORIES AND REFERENCES AND COULD FIND NO RPT NO SUCH ORGANIZATION LISTED. IN ADDITION, ADDRESS AS GIVEN IN REF (A), I.E., VOROVSKAYA STREET, DOES NOT RPT NOT EXIST. HOWEVER, THERE IS A VOROVSKOGO RPT VOROVSKOGO STREET, LOCATED WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE FROM EMBASSY.

2. COMOFF VISITED NO. 25 VOROVSKOGO STREET, AND FOUND AT THIS ADDRESS PRE-KINDERGARTEN DAY CARE CENTER NO. 276 WHICH OCCUPIES A SIX-STORY BUILDING. BEHIND THIS BUILDING, AND TO LEFT IS THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH, A SMALL TWO-STORY STRUCTURE. NEXT DOOR TO DAY CARE CENTER, AT NO. 25A VOROVSKOGO, HOWEVER, IS IN FACT THE INSTITUTE OF WORLD LITERATURE, ALSO A TWO-STORY BUILDING. COMOFF INQUIRED AT RECEPTION DESK
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IN WORLD LITERATURE INSTITUTE WHETHER INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL TOXICOLOGY WAS ALSO LOCATED IN SAME BUILDING. RECEPTIONIST SAID HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF SUCH AN INSTITUTE, NOR WAS ANY MEDICAL INSTITUTE LOCATED IN THE AREA. WITH THIS COMOFF WALKED AROUND VICINITY OF NOS. 25 AND 25AULITSA VOROVSKOGO. ON ONE SIDE IS LOCATED AN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL CULTURE, ON THE OTHER A SMALL BUILDING WITH

NO RPT NO DESIGNATION. IN OPINION OF COMOFF, BUILDING IS TOO SMALL TO HOUSE LABORATORY FACILITY. ALL ABOVE BUILDINGS ARE PHYSICALLY SEPARATED BY ALLEYWAYS.

3. USSR MINISTRY OF HEALTH DIRECTORY SERVICE IS UNAWARE OF EXISTENCE OF QUOTE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL TOXICOLOGY UNQUOTE IN MOSCOW. REFERENCES INDICATE THERE IS SUCH AN ORGANIZATION, HOWEVER, IN KIEV AND LENINGRAD.

4. COMOFF WAS INFORMED APRIL 26 BY HEWLETT PACKARD REPRESENTATIVE, PETER GLADKIN, THAT TOXICOLOGY INSTITUTE IS LOCATED IN THE DAY-CARE CENTER AND THAT THERE IS NO RPT NO SIGN INDICATING ITS WHEREABOUTS. ACCORDING TO GLADKIN, INSTITUTE SPOKESMAN SAID SIGN WAS TAKEN DOWN BECAUSE INSTITUTES IN THAT PARTICULAR AREA CANNOT OPEN BEFORE 1000 A.M. DUE TO "PARKING PROBLEMS." IN ORDER TO EVADE THIS RESTRICTION, ACCORDING TO GLADKIN, SIGN WAS TAKEN DOWN AND EMPLOYEES NOW ARRIVE AT 0900 A.M. THIS INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED BY H-P EMPLOYEE FRITZ CZAUFAL WHO RECENTLY PAID A VISIT THERE. CZAUFAL PREPARED A WRITTEN REPORT COPY OF WHICH GLADKIN PROMISED TO GIVE US. H-P REP FURTHER STATED THAT EQUIPMENT H-P HAS SOLD INSTITUTE CAN ONLY BE USED FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSIS, ALTHOUGH HE ADMITTED HE DID NOT RPT NOT KNOW THE NATURE OF THE WORK PERFORMED AT INSTITUTE. FYI: GLADKIN AND H-P REPRESENTATIVE TOM CHRISTIANSEN WILL BE IN WASHINGTON ON MAY 22 AND 23. THEY WILL GET IN TOUCH

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WITH USDOC/OEA TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER. END FYI.

5. GLADKIN TOLD COMOFF THAT H-P HAS BEEN DOING BUSINESS WITH INSTITUTE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. WHEN ASKED BY COMOFF WHY ORGANIZATION WAS NOT RPT NOT LISTED IN ANY OF THE LOCAL REFERENCES, AND WAS UNKNOWN TO MINISTRY OF HEALTH HE REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT RPT NOT KNOW, BUT PERHAPS INSTITUTE FALLS UNDER ANOTHER MINISTRY. WHEN ASKED WHETHER H-P WOULD ARRANGE FOR AN EMBASSY OFFICER TO VISIT SITE, GLADKIN DECLINED STATING THAT SUCH A REQUEST COMING FROM H-P WOULD RAISE SUSPICIONS AT INSTITUTE AND COULD BE HARMFUL TO H-P'S COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH SOVIETS. MOREOVER, HE SAID THAT H-P OFFICE, MOSCOW, IS CONSIDERING HIRING ONE OF THE INSTITUTE'S TECHNICIANS.

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THERE CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT NOW OF LABORATORY'S DE FACTO EXISTENCE, PURPOSE OF ITS QUOTE RESEARCH UNQUOTE IS STILL A MYSTERY. IF THIS ENTITY HAS BEEN AROUND FOR SEVERAL YEARS, IT IS QUITE ODD THAT IT IS NOT RPT NOT LISTED IN ANY OF THE DIRECTORIES. WHILE THIS AURA OF MYSTERY MAY CONSTITUTE NOTHING MORE THAN SOVIET BUREAUCRATIC BUNGLING, IT WOULD BE MOST INTERESTING TO DISCOVER JUST WHAT THE INSTITUTE OF

MEDICAL TOXICOLOGY DOES. UNFORTUNATELY, EMBASSY CAN NOT DO MORE THAN REPORT ITS INDEPENDENT FINDINGS AND AMPLOFYING COMMENTS OF H-P REP GLADKIN, A NOT DIS-INTERESTED OBSERVER.

7. EMBASSY REGRETS DELAY IN REPLYING TO REFTL (A).
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